

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 226272

FOLLOWING REPEAT LIBREVILLE 1011 KENT SECSTATE INFO HONG KONG PARIS
TAIPEI YAOUNDE NOVEMBER 15:

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 1011

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GB,TW, CH

SUBJ: CPR DELEGATION VISITS GABON

REF: LIBREVILLE 0994 (NOTAL)

1. FROM ROC AND FRENCH EMBASSY SOURCES WE HAVE
FOLLOWING INFORMATION CONCERNING VISIT OF CPR
DELEGATION TO LIBREVILLE NOVEMBER 6-9.

2. THREE-MAN DELEGATION LED BY CPR AMBASSADOR TO
CAMEROON CAME AT INVITATION OF PRESIDENT BONGO TO
DISCUSS ASSUMPTION OF FORMAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.
MINISTER OF STATE RAWIRI (FOREIGN AFFAIRS) WAS IN
CHARGE OF NEGOTIATIONS ON GABONESE SIDE.

3. CPR DELEGATION REPORTEDLY PROMISED UNDERTAKE
DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN THREE MAIN AREAS -
AGRICULTURE, PUBLIC WORKS, AND LIGHT INDUSTRY AND
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SPECIFICALLY TO TAKE OVER NATIONALIST CHINESE PROJECTS.

SIGNIFICANTLY GOG SIGNED ACCORD WITH TAIWAN NOVEMBER
8 FOR APPROXIMATELY US DOLS 5 MILLION SUGAR REFINERY
PROJECT, THUS RAISING AT MID-POINT IN TALKS WITH CPR
PRICE PEKING WOULD HAVETO PAY TO REPLACE ROC.
ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCES CPR DELEGATION DEPARTED
WITHOUT FINAL DECISION ON EITHER SIDE BUT WITH AGREEMENT
THAT MATTER OR RELATIONS WOULD REMAIN UNDER STUDY.

4. COMMENT. PRESIDENT BONGO PROBABLY WISHES TO
EXACT MAXIMUM PRICE FOR RELATIONS WITH GABON AND
AGRCULTURAL ASSISTANCE WHICH HAS RECEIVED INCREASED
EMPHASIS OF LATE AND IN WHICH ROC HEAVILY INVOLVED
WILL BE LARGE PORTION OF ANY ACCEPTABLE AID PACKAGE.
IN KEEPING WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE POLICIESN OF COURSE,
NEITHER TAIPEI NOR PEKING WILL ACCEPT TO HAVE A MISION
HERE IF THE OTHER CHINA IS ALSO REPRESENTED. BONGO
MAY WELL RELUCTANTLY CHOOSE CPR IF AID TERMS ARE ATTRACTIVE
ENOUGH. MCKESSON

UNQUOTE. RUSH

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